

Upon completion of his law education, Justice Marshall dedicated himself to the civil rights struggle. Whether as head of the legal defense and education fund of the NAACP, or as chief counsel in the Brown versus Board of Education case, Justice Marshall never slowed in his fight for equal rights for all Americans. He continued this fight as the Nation's first black Solicitor General, where he scored numerous victories in the areas of civil and constitutional rights. His career culminated in an historic appointment to the U.S. Supreme Court in 1967, where he served with distinction until his retirement in 1991.

H.R. 653 is a fitting tribute to the life and work of our Nation's first African-American Supreme Court Justice, and I am proud to represent the district where the Thurgood Marshall U.S. Courthouse will be located. It is certainly an appropriate honor for this great American. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I, too, strongly urge an aye vote on this bill. I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. EVERETT). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. GILCHREST] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 653.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended, and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

WALTER B. JONES FEDERAL BUILDING AND UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 840) to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 215 South Evans Street in Greenville, North Carolina, as the "Walter B. Jones Federal Building and United States Courthouse".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 840

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

The Federal building and United States courthouse located at 215 South Evans Street in Greenville, North Carolina, shall be known and designated as the "Walter B. Jones Federal Building and United States Courthouse".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Federal building and United States courthouse referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Walter B. Jones Federal Building and United States Courthouse".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. GILCHREST] will be recognized for 20 minutes, and the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. TRAFICANT] will be recognized for 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. GILCHREST].

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 840, a bill to designate the Federal Building and United States Courthouse located in Greenville, NC as the "Walter B. Jones Federal Building and United States Courthouse." Walter Jones was one of our most respected and accomplished colleagues ever to serve this Chamber. Born in Fayetteville, NC, Walter Jones began his career as a public servant when he was elected mayor of Farmville, NC in 1949. He served three terms in North Carolina State assembly and was in the midst of his first term in the State senate when in 1966 he won a special election to this Chamber to fill the seat left vacant by the death of former Member Herbert Bonner. He became a tireless advocate for the American worker and the American farmer. Walter Jones was reelected to 11 successive Congresses, serving in this Chamber from February 5, 1966 until his death in 1992. He was a member of the Agriculture Committee and served as chairman of the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee from the 97th through the 100th Congress. As chairman of the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee, Mr. Jones committed himself to ensuring that the United States maintained a viable merchant marine fleet and marine industry. H.R. 840 is an appropriate and fitting honor to bestow on our former colleague and I urge all Members to support the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from Minnesota [Mr. OBERSTAR], the ranking member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. TRAFICANT] for yielding this time to me, and I also thank our chairman, the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. GILCHREST], for bringing this legislation to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, it was my great privilege and pleasure to serve with Walter Jones on the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee. We served in Congress together on that committee, worked together on a lot of issues. But what struck me was first of all he succeeded Herb Bonner, who was chairman of that committee and then in his own right became chairman of the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries. It is very unusual for one State, let alone one district, to have a succession of chairmanship of one particular committee.

But Walter Jones served in that capacity in a very unassuming, very affable, very warm, but also very knowledgeable manner, with a quiet, unsuspecting country humor. He would often break the tension in a very hotly

contested markup over some very difficult and hotly contested issues with just a bit of folk wisdom, or country humor, or an observation that would devastate one side or the other. He had that remarkable knack, that personality that just fitted the occasion, and he did not have to say much, and he usually did not, but what he said was compelling, and whether, as I said earlier, it was humor, or whether it was a bit of folk wisdom to enlighten a point, or whether it was to hurry a vote; when he called a vote, he said all those in favor say aye, aye, and everyone else jumped in, and, before they knew it, the bill was passed.

Mr. Speaker, maybe some of them wanted it passed or not, but they followed his leadership, and his wisdom, and his care about America's merchant marine, about our Coast Guard, about our marine environment, about endangered species, and that committee had jurisdiction over the Marine Mammal Protection Act, and he saw to it that that jurisdiction was carried out and that America's concern for our Marine Mammal Protection Act and for the endangered species of the great oceans of this country was carried out appropriately.

Mr. Speaker, for us to name a building in his honor is a very small, but deserved, honor, one that we can and that we should pay. The greater tribute to Walter Jones is the legacy of legislation that he left. But more importantly, the care that he had for the people he represented; he loved them and spoke of them often, and he represented them with great honor and dignity, and his legacy will carry on in the name that we give to this building in his honor.

Mr. Speaker, this honor is long overdue. Walter Jones' career spanned over four decades beginning in 1949 with his election as the mayor of Farmville, NC, then in 1955 to the North Carolina State Assembly, in 1965 to the State senate and finally in 1966 to the U.S. House of Representatives.

From his days in Congress, Mr. Jones worked hard and long for his constituents. He became a tireless advocate for the American worker and the American farmer. He was reelected to eleven successive Congresses, serving in the United States House of Representatives from February 5, 1966, until his death in 1992. He was a Member of the House Agriculture Committee and served as chairman of the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee from the 97th through the 100th Congresses. As chairman of the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee, Walter Jones committed himself to ensuring the United States maintained a viable merchant marine fleet and maritime industry.

His stewardship of the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee was recognized for its fairness and openness. I had the pleasure of serving under Chairman Jones on the Merchant Marine Committee. He was not only known for his dedication, hard work, humility and humanity, but he also had a quiet way about him that oftentimes brought great results.

Walter B. Jones was one of the most respected and accomplished Members ever to

serve in the House of Representatives, and H.R. 840 is a fitting and appropriate tribute to his honor.

I urge passage of H.R. 840.

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Minnesota [Mr. OBERSTAR] for his very kind and most appropriate words to one of the finest Members of this Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from North Carolina [Mr. JONES].

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. GILCHREST], the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. TRAFICANT], and the gentleman from Minnesota [Mr. OBERSTAR]. This obviously is a very special privilege for me, one that I doubt very few sons in the history of the Congress have. I am honored and humbled, quite frankly, to be on the floor at this time to say thank you to the U.S. House for remembering my father in such a special and very permanent way.

The gentleman from Minnesota [Mr. OBERSTAR] was right about my father. He loved the Congress, he loved the people in the Congress, and was a man that has served, that did serve, I should say, for 26 years. I certainly must tell my colleagues that not only am I and my family honored by them remembering my father, but also the constituents that elected my father to 13 terms in the U.S. House of Representatives.

My father appreciated the work of this wonderful and great institution and the men and women that made this institution so great. My father also appreciated the staff that worked with him as chairman of the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, and also the staff in his office, both in the district and also in Washington, as well as the members of the staff that work around the House and the Capitol and the women that operate the elevators. He was a man that appreciated his fellow man and a person that never forgot his roots, and that is why I think my father for so many years, even when his health because of age was beginning to fail him and he had to campaign, quite frankly, in a wheelchair back in the district, and many times candidates much younger would oppose my father. Yet my father would get better than 70 percent of the vote each and every time, and the reason for that was because my father never forgot the people back home that gave him the privilege and the honor to represent them.

So I say to my colleagues again that this is an honor for me to be on this floor to thank my colleagues of the U.S. House of Representatives, that they thought so much of my father that they would want to remember him in this very special way. If I may close, because I see one of my father's many friends, and before I close let me say that it has been a very humbling experience to have men and women from both sides of the aisle to tell me how

much they respected and thought of my father, and the two words that they used that made me feel so proud of my father was that he was a gentleman and that he was fair. That to me, they are two of the best words that can be said about a person, that he is a gentleman and that he is a fair person.

I see my good friend, the gentleman from Mississippi [Mr. TAYLOR], who among many that came down to my father's funeral, and I think the second or third month that I was here, maybe in February or March, that GENE came up to me, and he handed me this index card, and he said, "WALTER, I think it is only appropriate that you have this," and I would like to close with this, if I may, Mr. Speaker.

GENE handed me this, and he said, "It is a note that I took at your father's funeral," and he said, "I wrote it down right after the minister used this quote from Everett Hale," and the quote is, and I think this fits my father and many of us that served in the U.S. House of Representatives; it says: "I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. What I can do, I should do, and, with the help of God, I will do it."

Mr. Speaker, I close with that because I think they are very powerful words, and again I know I am being repetitious, but this is a very emotional time for me. I can only say in very simple, simple words, "Thank you so very much."

Mr. FIELDS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. JONES. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. FIELDS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I have no prepared statement. In fact I wandered into the Chamber on another matter, but, in knowing that this is in recognition of the gentleman's father, I felt compelled to stand up and say that, when I entered Congress in 1980, as a Republican, a freshman Republican, and was on the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee, the gentleman's father took me aside, as he did everyone who served under his tutelage, and gave advice, and was helpful and lent guidance, and he always did it with great compassion for the constituencies that we represented, and he always did it with a great deal of honor. When we look around the Chamber, the people who served under the gentleman's father, Republican, Democrat, liberal or conservative, there is universal admiration for what his father represented, and we are all very appreciative.

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas [Mr. FIELDS].

□ 1545

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to my good friend, the gentleman from Mississippi [Mr. TAYLOR].

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from North Carolina [Mr. JONES] for his compliment. His dad

meant a lot to me, as he did to every Member of this body. I must confess I was not smart enough to remember what the preacher said, but I was smart enough to ask the preacher for his notes that day, and they actually came from one of the two ministers who presided over your father's funeral.

I was always very much impressed with your father's desire to serve the public. I really noticed at your father's funeral that everyone I spoke to there always mentioned that your dad was there to serve his fellow citizens; in this day of cynicism and skepticism, where people run for Congress based on saying how terrible a place it is and that they are the only good one, that so many people felt so strongly and so positively about your dad, and I am glad we did not have to wait the full 5 years to see to it that your father is honored.

I want to compliment the sponsor of this bill, and above all, I want to compliment your dad for being a great American, and hope that you turn to be every bit as great as your father.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, many of us around here, just speaking off the cuff, loved Walter Jones. I did not serve on the committee with him, but because one of his probably closest allies. He imparted much advice and counsel to me, many times advising me to shut up and sit down, and cautioning me on some of the unusual behavior traits I employed to try and help my district in my early days in the Congress.

Without reading from a prepared text, like many others, I loved Walter Jones. He embodied what a Congressman should be like. I think back of Bill Natcher, Walter Jones, and Jamie Whitten and individuals like that, and we conjure up in our minds great leaders from our country that many times had gone without a whole lot of fanfare and much recognition. I am absolutely honored to be the sponsor of this legislation.

In addition to that, Mr. Speaker, I am absolutely honored to find that such a fine son is here to carry on the legacy for North Carolina. The attitude that he brings is much like his dad's. I guess the apple does not fall too far from the tree.

I am proud of the fact that we are doing this today. This is right that we should do this. We passed this legislation last year. I cannot understand the reason why we had to revisit this, but because of some of the political dynamics occurring in the other body. Let there be no political dynamics that would in fact derail this particular piece of legislation. This is fitting. I am proud to be associated with it.

I thank the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. GILCHREST] and all who played a part in helping to bring this legislation to the floor. I ask all to support it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. BATEMAN].

Mr. BATEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

When I first came to the Congress in 1983 and was assigned to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries and attended its first meeting, Mr. Speaker, I was almost taken aback by the fact that Walter Jones, the chairman, had bothered to look at the biographies of those members who were being assigned to his committee and had learned that I was indeed born in his district in North Carolina. He reminded me of that fact.

I would say to my colleagues that in people like Walter Jones, if we were to emulate them in all of our activities here in the Congress, our work product would be improved, the atmosphere of this institution would be more in keeping with what it should be, and the American people would hold us in a higher regard. Walter Jones, as someone mentioned, was indeed a great gentleman.

Mr. HEFNER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BATEMAN. I yield to the gentleman from North Carolina.

Mr. HEFNER. Mr. Speaker, I had a few words to say. Walter Jones for many, many years was a very close friend of mine. We worked very closely together. What a lot of people do not realize was what a great sense of humor Walter Jones had.

If I would be permitted, I would just like to give a little story. We had a Member, and I will not quote any names, but the Member had a tendency and he would say, "If there was a good, qualified candidate in my district, I just would not run this year." He continued to say that.

One day we were having lunch and he said, "If there was a good, qualified candidate in my district, I wouldn't run anymore." Walter said, "Let me name off a few." So that is the last time. He named off about five or six different well-qualified people that lived in that district. That was the last time it was ever brought up, if there was ever a qualified candidate.

Walter Jones, as his son said, was a fair man. He was a good man. We have a saying down in North Carolina: He is the kind of man, if you had to be away from home for a week, that you would like to have Walter Jones agree to do up your things for you. He was a gentleman, he was a fair man, and we miss him. I think this is more than appropriate, what we are doing for him today. I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. BATEMAN. I am delighted to have yielded.

Mr. Speaker, let me conclude. I will not take the 5 minutes allocated, but let me conclude by saying that my personal disagreements with the very esteemed Walter Jones were very, very few; but one of the things that is a mark of the fact that he was a great

gentleman, and his great sense of how this institution should conduct itself, that never was there any occasion when in any disagreement there was anything disagreeable. He was a wonderful, wonderful man, and like all my previous colleagues, I miss him sorely.

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to an esteemed colleague, the gentleman from North Carolina [Mr. COBLE], to speak on behalf of the bill.

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, if I appear out of breath, I am out of breath. I was in my office and I turned on the television in the office while I was working and saw my good friend, the gentleman from Ohio, whom I know was one of Walter's dearest friends, but my volume was not turned on so I could not hear what the gentleman was saying. I usually listen to the gentleman when he is talking.

Subsequently the gentleman from North Carolina, [Mr. JONES], young WALTER, came on. My volume was not tuned up as well. Then when I finally did activate the volume, I learned that we were over here honoring the late Walter Jones, and I ran over here. I am still huffing and puffing, Mr. Speaker, but I would be remiss if I did not say a word or two about him.

I used to refer to WALTER junior, when I would talk to his dad, as "young Walter." "How is young Walter doing?" I would ask old Walter from time to time. One time he said to me, he always called me Coble, and he said "Coble, I wish you would not refer to him as young Walter, because by definition, that makes me old Walter." I did not break that habit. I still call him young WALTER, even to this day.

But Walter Jones probably conducted the most, I guess evenhanded would be an accurate way to describe him, evenhanded, fair, hearings, and his hearings and meetings were always very, very nonpartisan. Oftentimes, Mr. Speaker, people will be critical of certain committees in the House: "Oh, they are too partisan." That in and of itself does not bother me. This is a partisan body. We are supposed to be partisan from time to time. I think some of these committee chairmen, though, could take a lesson from the late Walter Jones. I think sometimes we are overly partisan in expressing our own views and the views of our colleagues.

I am very pleased and honored to take part in this, I say to my friend, the gentleman from Maryland, and my friend, the gentleman from Ohio, and of course, my good friend, the gentleman from eastern Carolina, WALTER JONES, Jr. The building is in Greenville, NC, home of East Carolina University, where many of us attended Walter Jones' funeral when we laid him to rest that day. The funeral was in Greenville and the interment, I think, was in Farmville, subsequently. But Walter was a good man, beloved by many, beloved by all who knew him.

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN].

Mr. GILMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I have had a great regard for Walter Jones over the years, a true gentleman and one that was always willing to reach a hand out to advise all of us in this Chamber, so I am pleased to join with the gentleman with regard to honoring Walter Jones.

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, my last comments would be to echo those of my colleagues who addressed Mr. Jones, Chairman Jones, Congressman Jones as a fine man, one who fought throughout the course of his career and his life for justice, for tolerance, for freedom, for fairness, for liberty. And it is quite obvious here this afternoon, Mr. Speaker, that he was also a very fine father, because he raised a fine son who is now a Member of this Chamber.

On behalf of the present gentleman from North Carolina [Mr. JONES], I urge my colleagues to vote "aye" on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. EVERETT). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. GILCHREST] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 840.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

THOMAS D. LAMBROS FEDERAL BUILDING AND UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 869) to designate the Federal building and U.S. Courthouse located at 125 Market Street in Youngstown, OH, as the "Thomas D. Lambros Federal Building and United States Courthouse", as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 869

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

The Federal building and United States courthouse located at 125 Market Street in Youngstown, Ohio, shall be known and designated as the "Thomas D. Lambros Federal Building and United States Courthouse".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Federal building and United States courthouse referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Thomas D. Lambros Federal Building and United States Courthouse".